## Telephonic participation in Texas Employment Commission meetings (SB 868 by Blake/Shine)

DIGEST:

SB 868 would have allowed the three-member Texas Employment Commission (TEC) to meet and act "with full participation by all commission members" including participation by telephone, as long as a quorum of the commission was physically present at one location. Commissioners who were participating in open meetings by phone under this provision would have had to be tape recorded and heard at the location where the quorum was meeting.

GOVERNOR'S REASON FOR VETO:

The governor said TEC commissioners were full-time state employees and should not be permitted to perform their official duties other than in person.

AUTHOR'S VIEW:

Sen. Roy Blake had no comment.

NOTES: SB 868 passed the House on the Consent Calendar and was

not analyzed in a Daily Floor Report.